

**SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**STANDING HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE**

**DOCKET NO. 2006-227-G ORDER NO. 2017-7-H**

**JANUARY 30, 2017**

**Standing Hearing Officer: David Butler**

**DOCKET DESCRIPTION:**

**Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Incorporated's Financial Monthly Reports and Quarterly Reports**

**MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

**Request of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. for Modification and Extension of the Filing Deadlines of the Company's Quarterly Reports**

**STANDING HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:**

**Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont") requests permission to adopt a reporting deadline for its quarterly reports of sixty (60) days from the calendar quarter end to which the report relates. Request granted.**

**Piedmont notes that it regularly files quarterly financial reports with the Commission in this Docket on a calendar quarter basis. These reports are typically filed within thirty (30) days of the end of the calendar quarter to which they relate. Previously, the information in these reports, according to Piedmont, did not coincide with Piedmont's fiscal year or fiscal quarters used for accounting and SEC reporting purposes. As a result of Piedmont's recent acquisition by Duke, however, Piedmont's calendar year and calendar quarters now coincide with its fiscal year and fiscal quarters.**

**Piedmont states that, as a result of this change, continuing the practice of filing quarterly financial reports with the Commission within thirty days of the end of the fiscal quarter will now result in the disclosure of non-public financial information of Piedmont regarding its most recent fiscal quarter prior to the filing of the Duke Energy 10-Q/10-K for the same fiscal period that would otherwise make such information available to the public. Based on this dynamic and the correlating fact that Piedmont's next quarterly report is due on January 31, 2017 for the calendar quarter ending December 31, 2016, Piedmont requests permission to adopt a reporting deadline of sixty days from the calendar quarter end to which the report relates. Under this modified plan, Piedmont's filing date for its report for**

**the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016 would become February 28, 2017. Piedmont notes that such an extension will allow for the disclosure of Piedmont's financial information through the Duke Energy 10-Q/10-K filings prior to disclosure through the quarterly filings with the Commission.**

**The request is granted. Piedmont's reporting deadline shall now be sixty days from the calendar quarter end to which the report relates. Using this new reporting date, Piedmont will not disclose non-public financial information regarding its most recent fiscal quarter prior to the filing of the corresponding Duke Energy 10-Q/10-K that would make the information available to the public. Therefore, the extension and modification of the filing dates for Piedmont's quarterly reports achieve a reasonable goal.**